

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SS-15 INR-07 /040 W

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O R 020627Z AUG 76

FM USLO PEKING

TO AMEMBASSY DACCA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6111

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1478

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR CH BG

SUBJECT: EVACUATION OF BANGLADESH EMBASSY DEPENDENTS

1. BANGLADESH EMBASSY ASKED USLO TO PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE
TO BANGLADESH FOREIGN SECRETARY SINCE THEY WERE HAVING TROUBLE
MAKING CONTACT THROUGH COMMERCIAL CHANNELS.

QUOTE:

FOREIGN SECRETARY FROM AMYBASSADOR

THE FOLLOWING TWOMESSAGES WERE SENT TO YOU ON FIRST
AUGUST 1976. (1) QUOTE: FOREIGN SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR.
AFTER GREAT EARTHQUAKE OF JULY TWENTY EIGHTH WITH TANGSHAN AS
EPICENTRE AND STRONG SHOCK IN PEKING ALERT CONTINUED IN PEKING.
WHOLE CITY CAMPING OUT SINCE. REPORTS INDICATE TANGSHAN AT
EPICENTRE WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED WITH CASUALTIES IN MANY TENS
OF THOUSANDS. WE HAVE JUST BEEN ADVISED BY CHINESE GOVERNMENT
THAT EPICENTRE NOW MOVING TOWARDS PEKING WITH POSSIBILITY OF
VERY SEVERE TREMOR AND THAT PERSONNEL OF MISSIONS MAY LEAVE
CITY* SEVERAL EMBASSIES CONTEMPLATE EVACUATING WHILE OTHERS
PROPOSE SENDING FAMILIES AWAY. SEEK PERMISSION OF EVACUATE
FAMILIES ON BASIS DAILY ALLOWANCE TO SOUTH CHINA OR NEAR PLACE WITH
DISCRETIONHTO TAKE MISSION WITH ESSENTIAL RECORDS TO SOUTH CHINA
IF SITUATION ABSOLUTELY DEMANDS. UNQUOTE.

(2) QUOTE: FOREIGN SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR.
REFERENCE MY TELEGRAM OF TODAY REGARDING EVAUCATION MANY
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EMBASSIES INCLUDING SRI LANKA NEPAL AFGHANISTAN

ETC. ARE EVACUATING FAMILIES TO CANTON IMMEDIATELY. PAKISTAN
EMBASSY PROPOSED EVACUATION TO PAKISTAN AS PIA FLIES DIRECT.
IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR OUR FAMILIES TO FLY TO DACCA
WITH FIVE BREAKS ON THE WAY. PASSAGE TO CANTON PROBABLY TO BE BORNE
BY CHINESE FOREIGN OFFICE. REQUEST IMMEDIATE REPLY. UNQUOTE.

MANY MORE EMBASSIES ARE SHIFTING DEPENDENTS OF THE MEMBERS
OF THE MISSION TO CANTON, HONG KONG OR HOME COUNTRIES. A FEW
MISSIONS SHIFTED TO CANTON. REQUEST CABLE REPLY THROUGH THE
SAME CHANNEL.
BANGLADOOT PEKING

UNQUOTE
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NNN

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